

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04717 121934Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-05 MCT-01 ACDA-07
SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /090 W
-----064509 121936Z /53

O 121850Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8784
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 712
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4717

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, RH
SUBJECT: MUZOREWA CALLS FOR INDEPENDENCE IN ONE YEAR

1. SPEAKING TO A UANC CONGRESS IN QUE QUE, MUZOREWA TOLD
LARGE CROWD OF FOLLOWERS (3000) THAT INDEPENDENCE DAY FOR A
MAJORITY RULED ZIMBABWE MUST FALL ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1978.
ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, MUZOREWA SAID THAT SEPTEMBER 12
WAS CELEBRATED BY WHITE RHODESIANS AS "SETTLERS DAY" BECAUSE
IT WAS "THE DAY THEY COLONIZED YOU AND ME...THAT'S WHY WE
WANT THAT DAY TO BE CHANGED SO THAT THE NEXT TIME WE CELE-
BRATE SEPTEMBER 12 WE WILL BECOME A FREE PEOPLE."

2. MUZOREWA WAS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF UANC DURING THE
PARTY CONGRESS AND HIS ACCEPTANCE SPEECH APPARENTLY FOCUSED
ON THE DATE FOR INDEPENDENCE WHICH HE SAID WAS "ONE OF THE FEW
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FLAWS" OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS. OTHERWISE,
MUZOREWA SAID, THE PLAN WAS GOOD AND HAD A CHANCE OF SUCCESS.
HE USED THE OCCASION TO REITERATE THAT HE HAD NO INTENTION
OF JOINING WITH SMITH IN AN INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

3. DURING HIS SPEECH, MUZOREWA ASKED THE AUDIENCE TO
OBSERVE A MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR FALLEN GUERRILLAS. HE READ

OUT THE NAMES OF NINE UANC BRANCH MEMBERS WHO WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR TAKING PART IN BOMBING TWO SALISBURY NIGHT SPOTS LAST YEAR. HE THEN SAID "WE DO NOT HAVE THE NAMES OF MANY; WE DO NOT YET KNOW THE BURIAL PLACE OF MANY; HUNDREDS HAVE NOT BEEN BURIED--LET US REMEMBER THEM ALL AND RECOGNIZE THEM AS HEROES OF OUR STRUGGLE."

4. COMMENT: IN RECENT MONTHS MUZOREWA'S RHETORICAL MILITANCE HAS BEEN INCREASING, PARTICULARLY SINCE HIS RETURN TO RHODESIA AFTER THE GABELLAH DEFECTIONS (PRETORIA 4370) FROM THE UANC. IN THIS REGARD, HE HAS ATTEMPTED INCREASINGLY TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF WITH THE NATIONALIST FIGHTING FORCES. THIS HAS NOT GONE UNNOTICED BY THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS THREATENED TO PROHIBIT FROM OPERATING ANY POLITICAL GROUP WHICH SUPPORTS THE "TERRORISTS".
BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PRETOR04717
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770330-0236
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770974/aaaackix.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c5038648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1307609
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MUZOREWA CALLS FOR INDEPENDENCE IN ONE YEAR
TAGS: PDEV, RH, (MUZOREWA, ABEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c5038648-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009